

Appln. No. 09/599,042

Docket No. 22-0127

Amendments to the Claims

1 (Currently Amended): A method for power gating a downlink transmitter for transmitting a downlink beam frame signal, the method comprising:

transmitting, to form a single frame, at least a first header signal, a first payload signal, a second header signal, and a second payload signal;

when a power gating signal is active, removing RF power from the from the downlink transmitter when transmitting at least one of the first header signal and first payload signal in combination, and the second header signal and second payload signal in combination, thereby reducing transmitter DC power consumption.

2 (Original): The method of claim 1, further comprising hopping the downlink beam frame signal between at least two terrestrial cells.

3 (Original): The method of claim 2, further comprising the step of activating the power gating signal based on the terrestrial cell to which the downlink beam frame signal is currently hopped.

4 (Original): The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of activating the power gating signal based on a statistical multiplexing estimate of downlink frame utilization.

5 (Original): The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of activating the power gating signal in order to maintain at least one data queue on average approximately at preselected occupancy level.

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6 (Currently Amended): The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of transmitting a first flush signal and a second flush signal, and wherein removing power comprises removing power from the downlink transmitter during transmission of at least one of the first header signal, first payload signal, and first flush signal in combination, and the second header signal, second payload signal, and second flush signal in combination.

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7 (Currently Amended): The method of claim 1, wherein removing power comprises removing power from the downlink transmitter during transmission of for the first header signal, the first payload signal, the second header signal, and the second payload signal.

8 (Currently Amended): The method of claim 1, wherein removing power comprises removing power from the downlink transmitter during transmission of the first payload signal, the second header signal, and the second payload signal.

9 (Currently Amended): The method of claim 1, wherein removing power comprises removing power from the downlink transmitter during transmission of the first header signal, the first payload signal, and the second payload signal.

10 (Currently Amended): The method of claim 1, wherein transmitting comprises transmitting to form a single frame a first header signal, a first payload signal, a second

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header signal, a second payload signal, at least one additional header signal, and at least one additional payload signal;

when the power gating signal is active, removing power from the downlink transmitter during transmission of at least one of the first header signal and first payload signal in combination, the second header signal and second payload signal in combination, and the additional header signal and the additional payload signal in combination.

11 (Currently Amended): A power gating module for power gating a downlink transmitter that is configured to transmit a downlink beam frame signal, the power gating module comprising:

a power amplifier for amplifying ~~for~~ transmission frame signals including at least a first header signal, a first payload signal, a second header signal, and a second payload signal;

a power gating circuit coupled to the power amplifier, the power gating circuit including a power gate input and responsive to a power gating signal to remove power from the downlink transmitter during transmission of at least one of the first header signal and first payload signal in combination, and the second header signal and second payload signal in combination before amplification by the power amplifier.

12 (Original): The power gating module of claim 11, wherein the power gating circuit comprises a digital modulator with a gating control input connected to the power gate

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input and a bandpass filter with a predetermined passband coupled to a modulator output of the digital modulator.

13 (Original): The power gating module of claim 12, wherein the digital modulator outputs a modulated signal with frequency content outside the passband in response to the power gating signal.

14 (Original): The power gating module of claim 13, wherein the frequency content is substantially DC frequency content.

15 (Original): The power gating module of claim 12, wherein the digital modulator is a QPSK modulator and further comprising an Inphase gate and a Quadrature gate coupled to the digital modulator.

16 (Original): The power gating module of claim 15, wherein the Inphase gate and the Quadrature gate are held in a known output state in response to the power gating signal.

17 (Currently Amended): The power gating module of claim 11, wherein the power gating signal is active during transmission of the first header signal, the first payload signal, the second header signal, and the second payload signal.

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18 (Currently Amended): The power gating module of claim 11, wherein the power gating signal is active during transmission of the first payload signal, the second header signal, and the second payload signal.

19 (Currently Amended): The power gating module of claim 11, wherein the power gating signal is active during transmission of the first header signal, the first payload signal, and the second payload signal.

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20 (Original): The power gating module of claim 11, comprising:

a switch coupled to the power amplifier, the switch including a feed path selection input;

a first feed path coupled to the switch and characterized by a first hop location;

and

a second feed path coupled to the switch and characterized by a second hop location.

21 (Original): The power gating module of claim 20, wherein the switch is a ferrite switch.

22 (Original): The power gating module of claim 20, wherein the power gating signal is active based in part on the feed path selection of the first hop location or the second hop location.

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23-27 (Cancelled)

28 (Currently Amended): A method for power gating a transmitter for transmitting a downlink beam frame signal, the method comprising:

transmitting, to form a single frame, at least a first header signal, a first payload signal, a second header signal, and a second payload signal;

when a power gating signal is active, removing RF power from the transmitter during transmission of at least one of the first header signal, the first payload signal, the second header signal and the second payload signal, thereby reducing transmitter DC power consumption.

29 (Previously presented): The method of claim 28, further comprising hopping the downlink beam frame signal between at least two terrestrial cells.

30 (Previously presented): The method of claim 28, further comprising the step of activating the power gating signal based on the terrestrial cell to which the downlink beam frame signal is currently hopped.

31 (Previously presented): The method of claim 28, further comprising the step of activating the power gating signal based on a statistical multiplexing estimate of downlink frame utilization.

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32 (Previously presented): The method of claim 28, further comprising the step of activating the power gating signal in order to maintain at least one data queue on average approximately at preselected occupancy level.

33 (Previously presented): The method of claim 28, further comprising the step of transmitting a first flush signal and a second flush signal, and wherein removing power comprises removing power from at least one of the first header signal, first payload signal, first flush signal, second header signal, second payload signal and second flush signal.

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34 (Currently Amended): The method of claim 28, wherein transmitting comprises transmitting to form a single frame, a first header signal, a first payload signal, a second header signal, a second payload signal, and at least one additional payload signal;

when the power gating signal is active, removing power from the transmitter during transmission of at least one of the first header signal, first payload signal, the second header signal, and the second payload signal; and,

when the power gating signal is active, removing power from the transmitter during transmission of at least one of the additional header signal and the additional payload signal.
